

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 25, 2010

SENATE BILL

No. 1451

Introduced by Senator Yee
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Davis)

February 19, 2010

An act to amend Section 60050 of, and to add Section 60020.8 to, the Education Code, relating to instructional materials.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1451, as amended, Yee. Education: instructional materials.

Existing law provides that the State Board of Education must adopt regulations to govern the social content reviews, as specified, conducted at the request of a publisher or manufacturer of instructional materials outside the primary and followup instructional material adoption processes.

This provision remains in effect only until January 1, 2011, and as of that date is repealed.

This bill would require the state board, upon completion of the social content review, to inform the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Education, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education, and the Secretary of Education of content that it interprets to be as a result of a specified action by the Texas Board of Education. The bill would also require the state board, upon the next adoption of the History-Social Science Curriculum Framework, to ensure that the framework is constituent with specified standards governing instructional materials.

This bill would repeal this provision on January 1, 2016.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) The State Board of Education, among its other
4 responsibilities, is charged with adopting statewide academic
5 content standards in core and other curriculum areas.

6 (b) Despite other shortcomings in education funding, California
7 has some of the highest academic content standards in the United
8 States.

9 (c) Section 51204.5 of the Education Code requires instruction
10 of social sciences to include the early history of California and a
11 study of the role and contributions of both men and women, ~~black~~
12 *Black* Americans, American Indians, Mexicans, Asians, Pacific
13 Island people, and other ethnic groups to the economic, political,
14 and social development of California and the United States of
15 America, with particular emphasis on portraying the role of these
16 groups in contemporary society.

17 (d) Section 60040 of the Education Code requires instructional
18 materials used in schools to accurately portray the cultural and
19 racial diversity of our society, including the contributions of both
20 men and women in all types of roles, including professional,
21 vocational, and executive roles, as well as the role and contributions
22 of Native Americans, African Americans, Mexican Americans,
23 Asian Americans, European Americans, and members of other
24 ethnic and cultural groups to the total development of California
25 and the United States, and finally, the role and contributions of
26 the entrepreneur and labor in the total development of California
27 and the United States.

28 (e) Section 60043 of the Education Code requires instructional
29 materials used in schools to accurately portray, when appropriate
30 to the comprehension of pupils, that textbooks for social science,
31 history or civics classes contain the Declaration of Independence
32 and the Constitution of the United States.

33 (f) Section 60044 of the Education Code prohibits instructional
34 material to be used in schools that contains any matter reflecting
35 adversely upon persons because of their race, color, creed, national
36 origin, ancestry, sex, handicap, or occupation, as well as any
37 sectarian or denominational doctrine or propaganda contrary to
38 law.

1 (g) On March 12, 2010, the Texas Board of Education, which
2 consists of 15 elected members statewide, voted to adopt revisions
3 to their social studies curriculum for the 2010–11 school year
4 (formally referred to as revisions to Texas Administrative Code,
5 Title 19, Chapter 113, Subchapters A-C, and Texas Administrative
6 Code, Title 19, Chapter 118, Subchapter A).

7 (h) Although not yet formally adopted, it is widely presumed
8 that the proposed changes to Texas' social studies curriculum will
9 have a national impact on textbook content since Texas is the
10 second largest purchaser of textbooks in the United States, second
11 only to California.

12 (i) As proposed, the revisions are a sharp departure from widely
13 accepted historical teachings that are driven by an inappropriate
14 ideological desire to influence academic content standards for
15 children in public schools.

16 (j) The proposed changes in Texas, if adopted and subsequently
17 reflected in textbooks nationwide, pose a serious threat to Sections
18 51204.5, 60040, 60041, 60043, and 60044 of the Education Code
19 as well as a threat to the apolitical nature of public school
20 governance and academic content standards in California.

21 SEC. 2. Section 60020.8 is added to the Education Code, to
22 read:

23 60020.8. Upon the next adoption of the History-Social Science
24 Curriculum Framework, the state board shall ensure the framework
25 is consistent with provisions governing instructional materials,
26 including, but not limited to, Sections 51204.5, 60040, 60041,
27 60042, 60043, 60044, 60048, 60200.5, and 60200.6.

28 SEC. 3. Section 60050 of the Education Code is amended to
29 read:

30 60050. (a) The state board shall adopt regulations to govern
31 the social content reviews conducted at the request of a publisher
32 or manufacturer of instructional materials outside the primary and
33 followup instructional material adoption processes. A social content
34 review is intended to determine compliance with Sections 51204.5,
35 60040, 60041, 60042, 60043, 60044, 60048, 60200.5, and 60200.6,
36 and the guidelines for social content adopted by the state board.

37 (b) Upon completion of the social content review, the state board
38 shall inform the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Education,
39 the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education, and the Secretary
40 of Education of content that it interprets are the result of changes

1 to the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Chapter 113,
2 Subchapters A-C, and Texas Administrative Code, Title 19,
3 Chapter 118, Subchapter A, that were preliminarily approved on
4 March 12, 2010, and formalized on_____.

5 (c) (1) For purposes of this section, social content reviews of
6 instructional materials shall be conducted by the department or its
7 agents for all instructional materials, as defined in subdivision (h)
8 of Section 60010.

9 (2) The department may contract with agents to conduct social
10 content reviews pursuant to this section.

11 (d) The department shall assess a fee for social content reviews
12 conducted pursuant to this section. The fee shall be established
13 and assessed pursuant to the requirements specified in subdivisions
14 (d) to (f), inclusive, of Section 60227, and the publishers and
15 manufacturers shall be provided notice of the establishment of the
16 fee pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c) of Section 60227.

17 (e) Revenue derived from fees charged pursuant to subdivision
18 (c) shall be budgeted as reimbursements and subject to review
19 through the annual budget process and may be used to pay costs
20 associated with the social content review of instructional materials.

21 (f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, ~~2011~~
22 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
23 that is enacted before January 1, ~~2011~~ 2016, deletes or extends
24 that date.